

## MENACING CLASSES

### REV. DR. TALMAGE ON DANGERS THAT THREATEN SOCIETY

The Public Criminals—Prison Reform—The Idle Classes—The Oppressed Poor—Discrimination in Charity—Putting Garments to Glorious Uses.

(Copyright, 1897, by American Press Association.)

In this sermon Dr. Talmage, in a startling way, speaks of the dangers threatening our great towns and cities and shows how the slumbering fires may be put out. His text is Psalm lxxx, 13, "The roar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it."

By this homely, but expressive figure David sets forth the bad influences which in olden times broke in upon God's heritage, as with swine's foot trampling and as with swine's snout uprooting the vineyards of prosperity. What was true then was true now. There have been enough trees of righteousness planted to overshadow the whole earth had it not been for the axmen who hewed them down. The temple of truth would long ago have been completed had it not been for the iconoclast who defaced the walls and battered down the pillars. The whole earth would have been an Eschol of ripened clusters had it not been that "the roar has wasted it and the wild beast of the field devoured it."

#### THE DESTRUCTIVE CLASSES.

I propose to point out to you those whom I consider to be the destructive classes of society. First, the public criminals. You ought not to be surprised that these people make up a large proportion of many communities. In 1869 of the 49,000 people who were incarcerated in the prisons of the country 32,000 were of foreign birth. Many of them were the very desperadoes of society, oozing into the slums of our cities, waiting for an opportunity to riot and steal and debauch, joining the large gang of American thugs and cutthroats. There are in our cities people whose entire business in life is to commit crime. That is as much their business as jurisprudence or medicine or merchandise is your business. To them they bring all the energies of body, mind and soul, and they look upon the interregnum which they spend in prison as so much unfortunate loss of time, just as you look upon an attack of influenza or rheumatism which fastens you in the house for a few days. It is their lifetime business to pick pockets and blow up safes and shoplift and ply the panel game, and they have as much pride of skill in their business as you have yours when you upst the argument of an opposing counsel or cure a gun shot fracture which other surgeons have given up or foresee a turn in the market so you buy goods just before they go up 20 per cent. It is their business to commit crime, and I do not suppose once in a year the thought of the immorality strikes them. Added to these professional criminals, American and foreign, there is a large class of men who are more or less industrious in crime. Drunkenness is responsible for much of the theft, since it confuses a man's ideas of property, and he gets his hand on things that do not belong to him. Rum is responsible for much of the assault and battery, inspiring men to sudden bravery, which they must demonstrate, though it be on the face of the next gentleman.

You help to pay the board of every criminal, from the sneak thief who snatches a spoon of cotton up to some man who enforces the "black Friday." You might as well think to stand in a closely confined room where there are 50 people and yet not breathe the vitiated air as to stand in a community where there are so many of the depraved without somewhat being contaminated. What is the fire that burns your store down compared with the conflagration which consumes your moral? What is the theft of the gold and silver from your money safe compared with the theft of your children's virtue? We are all ready to arraign criminals. We shout at the top of our voice, "Stop thief!" and when the police get on the track we come out helpless and in our slippers and assist in the arrest. We come around the bawling ruffian and hustle him off to justice, and when he gets in prison what do we do for him? With great gusto we put on the handcuffs and the hooples, but when the handcuffs and hooples come off? Society seems to say to these criminals, "Villain, go in there and rot," when it ought to say, "you are an offender against the law, but we mean to give you an opportunity to repent; we mean to help you. Here are Bibles and tracts and Christian influences. Christ died for you. Look and live." Vast improvements have been made in the introducing industry into the prison, but we want something more than hammers and shoe lasts to reclaim these people. Aye, we want more than sermons on the Sabbath day. Society must impress these men with the fact that it does not enjoy their suffering, and that it is attempting to reform and elevate them. The majority of criminals suppose that society has a grudge against them, and they in turn have a grudge against society.

#### LIFE IN PRISON

They are harder in heart and more inhuman when they come out of jail than when they went in. Many of the people who go to prison go again and again. Some years ago of 1,500 prisoners who during the year had been in Sing Sing 400 had been there before. In a house of correction in the country where during a certain reach of time there had been 5,000 people more than 3,000 had been there before. So in one case the prison and in the other case the house of correction left them just as bad as they were before. The secretary of one of the benevolent societies of New York saw a lad 15 years of age who had spent three years of his life in prison, and he said to the lad, "What have they done for you to make you better?" "Well," replied the lad, "the first time I was brought up before the judge he said, 'You ought to be ashamed of yourself.' And then I committed a crime again, and I was brought up before the same judge, and he said, 'you rascal!'" And after awhile

I committed some other crime, and I was brought up before the same judge, and he said, 'you ought to be hanged.' That is all they had done for him in the way of reformation and salvation. "Oh," you say, "these people are incorrigible." I suppose there are hundreds of persons this day lying in the prison bunk who would leap up at the prospect of reformation if society would only allow them a way into decency and respectability. "Oh," you say, "I have no patience with these rogues." I ask you in reply how much better would you have been under the same circumstances? Suppose your mother had been a blasphemer and your father a sot and you had started life with a body stuffed with evil proclivities and you had spent much of your time in a cellar amid obscenities and cursing and if at 10 years of age you had been compelled to go out and steal, battered and banged at nights if you came in without any spoils, and suppose your early manhood had been covered with rags and filth and decent society had turned its back upon you and left you to consort with vagabonds and wharf rats, how much better would you have been? I have no sympathy with executive clemency which would let crime run loose or which would sit in the gallery of a courtroom weeping because some hard hearted wretch is brought to justice, but I do say that the safety and life of the community demand more potential influences in behalf of these offenders.

#### THE AMERICAN JAIL.

I stepped into one of the prisons of one of our great cities, and the air was like that of the Black Hole of Calcutta. As the air swept through the wicket it almost knocked me down. No sunlight Young men who had committed their first crime crowded in among old offenders. I saw there one woman, with a child almost blind, who had been arrested for the crime of poverty, who was waiting until the slow law could take her to the almshouse where she rightfully belonged, but she was thrust in there with her child, amid the most abandoned wretches of the town. Many of the offenders of that prison sleeping on the floor, with nothing but a vermin covered blanket over them. Those people crowded and wan and wasted and half suffocated and infuriated. I said to the men, "how do you stand it here?" "God knows," said one, "we have to stand it." "Oh," they will pay you when they get out! Where they burned down one house they will burn three. They will strike deeper the assassin's knife. They are this minute plotting worse burglaries. Many of the jails are the best place I know of to manufacture footpads, vagabonds and cutthroats. Yale college is not so well calculated to make scholars nor Harvard so well calculated to make scientists nor Princeton so well calculated to make theologians as the American jail is calculated to make criminals. All that these men do not know of crime after they have been in that style of dungeon for some time satanic machination cannot teach them. Every hour these jails stand they challenge the Lord Almighty to smite the cities. I call upon the people to rise in their wrath and demand a reformation. I call upon the judges of our courts to demand the infamy. I demand in behalf of these incarcerated prisoners fresh air and clear sunlight and in the name of him who had not where to lay his head a couch to rest on at night. In the insufferable stench and sickening surroundings of some of the prisons there is nothing but disease for the body, idiosyncrasy for the mind and death for the soul. Stuffed air and darkness and vermin never turned a thief into an honest man. We want men like John Howard and Sir William Blackstone and women like Elizabeth Fry to do for the prisons of the United States what those people did in other days for the prisons of England. I thank God for what Isaac T. Hopper and Dr. Wines and Mr. Harris and scores of others have done in the way of prison reform, but we want something more radical before upon our cities will come the blessing of him who said, "I was in prison and ye came unto me."

#### UNTRUSTWORTHY OFFICIALS.

In this class of uprooting and devouring population are untrustworthy officials. "Voe un thee, O land, when thy king is a child and thy princes drink in the morning." It is a great calamity to the city when bad men get into public authority. Why was it that in New York there was such unparalleled crime between 1866 and 1871? It was because the judges of police in that city for the most part were as corrupt as the vagabonds that came before them for trial. These were the days of high carnival for election frauds, assassinations and forgery. We had the whiskey ring and the Tammany ring and the Erie ring. There was one man during those years that got \$128,000 in one year for serving the public. In a few years it was estimated that there were 50,000,000 of public treasure squandered. In those times the criminal had only to wink to the judge, or his lawyer would wink for him, and the question was decided for the defendant. Of the 8,000 people arrested in that city in one year 3,000 were punished. These matters were "fixed up" while the interests of society were "fixed down." You know as well as I that a criminal who escapes only opens the door of other criminalities. It is no compliment to public authority when we have in all the cities of the country, walking abroad, men and women notorious for criminality, unwhipped of justice. They are noticed by the police in the street day by day. There you find what are called the "fences," the men who stand between the thief and the honest man, sheltering the thief and at great price handling over the goods to the owner to whom they belong. There you will find those who are called the "skimmers," the men who hover around Wall street and State street, with great sleight of hand in bonds and stocks. There you find the funeral thieves, the people who go and sit down and mourn with families and pick their pockets, and there you find the confidence men, who borrow money of you because they have a dead child in the house and want to bury it, when they never had a house or a family, or they want to go to England and get a large property there, and they want you to pay their way, and they will send the money back by the very next mail. There are the harbor thieves, the shoplifters, the pickpockets, famous all over the cities. Hundreds of them with their faces in the rogue's gallery, yet doing nothing for the last five or ten years, but defraud society and escape justice. When these people go unarrested and unpunished, it is putting a high premium upon vice and saying to the young criminals of this country that a safe thing it is to be a great criminal. Let the law swoop upon them. Let it be known in this country

that crime will have no quarter; that the detectives are after it; that the police are being bristled; that the iron door of the prison is being opened; that the judge is ready to call the case. Too great leniency to criminals is too great severity to society.

#### THE IDLE CLASS.

Among the uprooting and the devouring classes in their midst are the idle. Of course I do not refer to the people who are getting old or to the sick or to those who cannot get work, but I tell you to look out for those athletic men and women who will not work. When the French nobleman was asked why he kept busy when he had so large a property, he said, "I keep on engraving so I may not hang myself." I do not care who the man is, he cannot afford to be idle. From the idle classes that the criminal classes are made up. Character, like water, gets putrid if it stands still too long. Who can wonder that in this world, where there is so much to do, and all the hosts of earth and heaven and hell are plunging into the conflict, and angels are flying, and God is at work, and the universe is a quaking with the march and countermarch of the angels, that the idle classes fall upon a man who chooses idleness? I have watched these do nothing who spend their time stroking their beard, and retouching their toilet and criticising industrious people, and pass their days and nights in barrooms and clubhouses, lounging and smoking and chewing and card playing. They are not only useless, but they are dangerous. How hard it is for them to while away the hours! If they do not know how to while away an hour, what will they do when they have all eternity on their hands? These men for awhile smoke the best cigars and wear the best broadcloth and move in the highest spheres, but I have noticed that very soon they come down to the prison, the almshouse or stop at the gallows.

The police stations of two of our cities furnished annually 200,000 lodgings. For the most part these 200,000 lodgings are furnished to able bodied men and women, people as able to work as you and I are. When they are received no longer at one police station because they are "repeaters," they go to some other station, and so they keep moving around. They get their food at house doors, stealing what they can lay their hands on in the front basement while the servant is spreading the bread in the kitchen. They get their work. Time and again in the country districts they have wanted hundreds and thousands of laborers. These men will not go. They do not want to work. I have tried them. I have set them to sawing wood in my cellar to see whether they wanted to work. I offered to pay them well for it. I have heard the saw going for about three minutes, and then I went down, and lo, the wood, but no saw! These are the men of society, and they stand in the way of the Lord's poor, who ought to be helped and will be helped. While there are thousands of industrious men who cannot get any work these men who do not want any work come in and make that plea. Sleeping at night at public expense in the station house. During the day getting their food at your doorstep. Imprisonment does not scare them. They would like it. Blackwell's Island or Moyamensing prison would be a comfortable home for them. They would have no objection to the almshouse, for they like thin soup if they cannot get mock turtle.

I like for that class of people the scant bill of fare that Paul wrote out for the Thessalonian loafers, "If any work not, neither should he eat." By what law of God or man is it right that you and I should toil day in and day out and these men have no brains and our arms ache and our brain gets numb and then be called upon to support what in the United States are about 2,000,000 loafers? They are a very dangerous class. Let the public authorities keep their eyes on them.

#### THE OPPRESSED POOR.

Among the uprooting classes I place the oppressed poor. Poverty to a certain extent is chastening, but after that when it drives a man to the wall and he hears his children cry in vain for bread, it sometimes makes him desperate. I think that there are thousands of honest men lacerated into vagabondism. There are men crushed under burdens for which they are not half paid. While there is no excuse for criminality, even in oppression, I state it as a simple fact that much of the scoundrelism of the community is consequent upon treatment. There are many men and women, battered and bruised and stung until the hour of despair has come, and they stand with the ferocity of a wild beast which pursued until it can run no longer, turns around, foaming and bleeding, to fight the hounds.

There is a vast underground city life that is appalling and shameful. It wallows and steams with putrefaction. You go down the stairs, which are wet and dripping with filth, and at the bottom you find the potter's field, the floor, cold, sick, three-fourths dead, sinking into a still darker corner under the gleam of the lantern of the police. There has not been a breath of fresh air in that room for five years literally. There are men, women, children, black, whites, Mary Magdalene without her repentance and Lazarus without his God. These are the "divers" in the city who pickpocket and the thieves go as well as a great many who would like a different life, but cannot get it. These places are the sores of the city which bleed perpetually corruption. They are the underling volcano that threatens us with a Caracac earthquake. It rolls and roars and surges and heaves and rocks and blasphemes and dies. And there are only two outlets for it—the police and the potter's field. There you find the funeral thieves, the people who go and sit down and mourn with families and pick their pockets, and there you find the confidence men, who borrow money of you because they have a dead child in the house and want to bury it, when they never had a house or a family, or they want to go to England and get a large property there, and they want you to pay their way, and they will send the money back by the very next mail. There are the harbor thieves, the shoplifters, the pickpockets, famous all over the cities. Hundreds of them with their faces in the rogue's gallery, yet doing nothing for the last five or ten years, but defraud society and escape justice. When these people go unarrested and unpunished, it is putting a high premium upon vice and saying to the young criminals of this country that a safe thing it is to be a great criminal. Let the law swoop upon them. Let it be known in this country

God. Just look at me. No good God."

#### THE CHRISTIAN DUTY.

In these American cities, whose cry of want I interpret there are hundreds and thousands of honest poor who are dependent upon individual city and state charities. If all their voices could come up at once, it would be a groan that would shake the foundations of the city and bring all earth and heaven to the rescue, but for the most part it suffers unexpressed. It sits in silence, gnashing its teeth and sucking the blood of its own arteries, waiting for the judgment day. Oh, I should not wonder if on that day it would be found out that some of us had some things that belonged to them some extra garment which might have made them comfortable on cold days some bread thrust into the ash barrel that might have appeased their hunger for a little while, some wasted candle or gas jet that might have kindled up their darkness, some fresco on the ceiling that would have given them a roof, some jewel which, brought to that orphan girl in time, might have kept her from being crowded off the precipices of an unclean life, some New Testament that would have told them of him who "came to seek and to save that which was lost." Oh, this wave of vagrancy and hunger and nakedness that dashes against our front doorstep—I wonder if you hear it and see it as much as I hear it and see it. I have been almost frenzied with the perpetual cry for help from the classes and all nations, knocking, knocking, ringing, ringing. If the roofs of all the houses of destitution could be lifted so we could look down into them just as God looks, whose nerves would be strong enough to stand it? And yet there they are.

The sewing women, some of them in hunger and cold, working night after night, until sometimes the blood spurts from nostril and lip. How well their grief was voiced by that despairing woman who stood by her invalid husband and invalid child and said to the city missionary, "I am down hearted. Everything's against us, and then there are other things." "What other things?" said the city missionary. "Oh," she replied, "my sin." "What do you mean by that?" "Well," she said, "I never hear or see anything good. It's work from Monday morning to Saturday night, and then when Sunday comes I can't go out, and I walk the floor, and it makes me tremble to think that I have got to meet God. Oh, sir, it's so hard for us. We have to work so, and then we have so much trouble, and then we are getting along so poorly, and see this wee little thing growing weaker and weaker."

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

STATEMENTS OF THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE SEMI-WEEKLY MESSENGER WERE RECENTLY MAILED, AND WHILE A GREAT MANY HAVE RESPONDED, THERE ARE MANY YET IN ARREARS AND WE TRUST THIS REMINDER WILL CAUSE ALL WHO HAVE NEGLECTED THEIR ACCOUNT WITH US TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION. THE DATE ON THE LABEL OF EACH PAPER SHOWS THE TIME TO WHICH THE SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID, AND THE ACCOUNT CAN BE EASILY DETERMINED WITHOUT WAITING FOR A STATEMENT FROM US. A THOROUGH REVISION OF THE LIST WILL BE MADE AT AN EARLY DATE AND ALL DELINQUENTS WILL BE PLACED ON OUR "BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE."

er, and then to think we are getting no nearer to God, but floating away from him—oh, sir, I do wish I was ready to die."

I should not wonder if they had a good deal better time than we in the future, to make up for the fact that they had such a bad time here. It would be just like Jesus to say: "Come up and take the highest seats. You suffered with me on earth, now be glorified with me in heaven." Oh, thou weeping one of Bethany! Oh, thou dying one of the cross! Have mercy on the starving, freezing, homeless poor of these great cities.

I want you to know who are the uprooting classes of society. I want you to be more discriminating in your charities. I want your hearts open with generosity and your hands open with charity. I want you to be made the sworn friends of all city evangelists and all new-born lodgers, house and all christian aid societies. Aye, I want you to send the Dorcas society all the cast off clothing, that, under the skillful manipulation of the wives and mothers and sisters and daughters, these garments may be fitted on the cold, bare feet and on the shivering limbs of the destitute. I should not wonder if that hat that you give should come back a jeweled coronet or that garment that you this week hand out from your wardrobe should mysteriously be whitened and somehow wrought in the Saviour's own robe, so in the last day he would run his hand over it and say, "I was naked and ye clothed me." That would be putting your garments to glorious uses. Besides all this I want you to appreciate in the contrast how every kindly God has dealt with you in your comfortable homes, at your well filled tables and at the warm registers, and to have you look at the round faces of your children, and then, at the review of God's goodness to you, go to your room and lock the door and kneel down and say: "O Lord, I have been an ingrate. Make me thy child. O Lord, there are so many hungry and unclad and un-redeemed today I thank thee that all my life thou hast taken such good care of me. O Lord, there are so many sick and crippled children today I thank thee mine are well, some of them on earth, some of them in heaven. Thy goodness, O Lord, breaks me down. Take me once and forever. Sprinkled as I was many years ago at the altar, while my mother held me, now I consecrate my soul to thee in a holier baptism of repenting tears.

"For sinners, Lord, thou canst't be led, And I'm a sinner vile indeed, Lord, I believe thy grace free, Oh, magnify that grace in me!"

Mark Hanna's face still hangs in the balance—the bank balance, as it were.—Detroit News.

## GOLD STANDARD ADVOCATES

### MEETING OF THE SOUND MONEY LEAGUE COMMITTEE

Reports of Progress From Various Sections of the Country—Bryan and His Followers Denounced as Fanatics, Bigots and Idiots—Declaration of the Gold Standard by the President at Advocated—Bimetallism Declared Dead—An Address to the People

New York, November 9.—The semi-annual meeting of the executive committee of the National Sound Money League was begun here today.

General Secretary Smalley read a communication from M. C. George, vice president for Oregon, who wrote that he was with the league in all the great questions relating to the currency and realizes the necessity for aggressive work. As to the state, in many places the league would find it honey combed with financial ignorance and error. The light, he said, should be made to shine in all the dark places.

On motion of Mr. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, it was voted to appropriate \$1,000 to aid Mr. George in spreading the light in Oregon.

J. K. Cowen, of Baltimore, reported that things were satisfactory in his territory and added that Maryland did not need any financial aid from the national league.

J. Sterling Morton, vice president of the league for Nebraska, wrote: "Mr. Bryan and his disciples are actively engaged in propaganda of money facies. They have united in one conclave all the fanatics, bigots and idiots in this state for the purpose of upholding the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. It is very painful to observe that this aggregation may quite possibly make a majority of 20,000 at the coming election for candidates who represent all that is inimical and disastrous to agriculture and, in fact, to sound money government everywhere."

Judge W. M. Reese, vice president of the league for Arkansas, wrote: "There is no change in this state. There is an overwhelming majority for free silver and Bryanism in any congressional district."

Charles F. Libby, vice president of the league for Maine, wrote in part: "So far as Maine is concerned, I do not think that the silver question will be an issue in the congressional campaign next year."

James L. Blair, of St. Louis, wrote: "On the whole, I cannot say that I feel encouraged over the situation in Missouri."

William C. Cornwell, of Buffalo, reported that as far as he could ascertain both in the eastern and western parts of the state the free silver sentiment was actively dying out.

Louis Ehrlich, of Colorado Springs, reported that nothing but better times can bring about a change in the free silver sentiment in Colorado. "The only thing to affect the state," he said, "is better times, and I would now suggest that the league come out boldly and ask the president of the United States to proclaim the gold standard as the money basis of the country."

President Leighton thought it highly inexpedient for the league to commit itself on this point at the present time.

M. E. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, said: "The result of the recent campaign shows conclusively that the south will again drift back to the democracy and free silver." Continuing, he said that "the great danger now is a tendency to drift into a new banking law, which the country will be fraught with danger."

#### Ziegler Knocked Out

San Francisco, Cal., November 10.—George Green, of San Francisco, knocked out Owen Ziegler, of Philadelphia, in the first round tonight. It was the famous "solar plexus" blow with which Fitzsimmons knocked out Jim Corbett which did the work. After several exchanges in which honors were even, Green forced Ziegler to a corner and swung viciously with his left for the stomach. This blow landed clean and strong. For a moment Ziegler swayed forward and then staggered to the corner and went down gradually to his knees and then on his face. He was deathly pale and groaned as if in agony. Referee Joe Chynoyak began counting and had reached five when Ziegler made a desperate effort to come to his feet. The effort was too much for him, however, and he grasped the ropes and pulling himself to his knees, he collapsed and fell on his face and was counted out. He was carried to a corner where his seconds worked on him for five minutes before he was able to stand up.

Before re-assembling the members of the committee said that President McKinley had stated his intention of recommending in his next message to congress the advisability of separating the issue department of the treasury from the regular government expenses accounts. In other words, it will be proposed to hold the gold reserve as a redemption fund for greenbacks—to make the gold and greenbacks interchangeable. It was said that President McKinley had spoken freely on Monday with a prominent official of the National Sound Money League on this question.

When the committee resumed its session Louis R. Ehrlich, of Colorado Springs, as chairman of one of the subcommittees, read the following address: "The executive committee of the National Sound Money League, in behalf of its members throughout the United States, issues the following address: 'International bimetalism, as a world possibility, is dead. Let us recognize this. The international bimetallic commission appointed under the St. Louis pledge of the republican party, have made strenuous efforts on behalf of this policy. Those efforts have proved futile. The commercial necessities of the world have demonstrated that a dual standard is commercially unacceptable and in the present stage of civilization, impossible. The hour has come, it seems to us, when a national recognition of this fact is necessary.'

"The situation demands a definite, clear, unequivocal declaration that international bimetalism is a dream of the past. The United States must proclaim their acceptance of the world fact, and plant themselves finally on the single gold standard. The proclamation of this monetary position will quicken our commerce, increase foreign investment and make permanent the prosperous conditions which have begun to manifest themselves in our country."

"We invite the friends of sound money and all who would contribute to the well-being and safety of our commercial life to join in bringing about the unmistakable declaration that now and henceforth the monetary system of the United States shall rest on the single gold standard."

The next meeting of the league will be held in Washington during January, 1898.

## Mother's Friend

Alleviates Nervousness, relieves the Headache, Cramps and Nausea, and so prepares the system that the time of recovery is shortened and many say "stronger after than before confinement." It insures safety to life of both mother and child. All who have used "Mother's Friend" say they will never be without it again. No other remedy robs confinement of its pain.

Book "TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS" mailed free, containing valuable information and voluntary testimonials.

THE BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., ATLANTA, GA.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AT \$1.00 PER BOTTLE.

#### NOVEMBER CROP REPORTS

Averages of Production and Condition—The Cotton Report Delayed—Favorable Reports From India, Argentina and Australia

Washington, November 10.—The November report of the statistician of the department of agriculture issued today, gives 23.7 bushels as the average yield per acre of corn, according to the preliminary returns of the department's correspondents. The corresponding preliminary estimate last year was 27.3 bushels, and that of 1895, 26.2 bushels. The average yield in the principal corn states is as follows: New York 25.5, Pennsylvania 26.0, Ohio 25.5, Indiana 25.0, Illinois 21.5, Iowa 29.0, Missouri 25.0, Kansas 19.0, Nebraska 29.0. The average per cent. of quality is 86.3, as compared with 88.4 in 1896, and 82.3 in 1895.

The preliminary estimate of the average yield of buckwheat is 20.7 bushels per acre, as compared with 18.7 bushels last year and 20.1 bushels in 1895. The average per cent. of quality is 92.5, as compared with 94.7 in November of last year.

The average yield per acre of tobacco is 646 pounds, against 679 pounds per acre last year, and 743 pounds in 1895. The estimated average yield per acre of Irish potatoes is 6.6 bushels, as compared with 8.5 bushels last year, and 10.7 bushels in November, 1895. The average per cent. of quality is 92.5, as compared with 88.2 in November last and 94.8 in November, 1895.

The average yield of hay is 1.42 tons per acre, against an average of 1.21 tons per acre for the last fifteen years. In point of quality the average is 92.8 per cent., as compared with 92.9 per cent. in November, 1896, and 91.3 per cent. in 1895.

The cotton report will be published at noon on Friday, it having been delayed by delayed reports from several important districts. Favorable conditions for sowing the fall crop are reported from most parts of Europe and the condition of the crop as far as sown is likewise favorable. The opinion is freely expressed that an increased area has been sown in wheat, and this appears to be more as a matter of inference from the natural tendency of high prices to produce such an effect than as an official statement. Reports from India continue favorable and, on the whole, this is true as to those from Argentina and Australia, but in all these countries there is yet apparent a tendency to permit any very confident prediction as to the final outcome. In the case of Argentina, it may prove that more damage has been done by the locusts and the spring frosts than is yet apparent. There is nothing to indicate that the wheat shortage in Europe is any less than has been supposed, while the crop of Manitoba is now represented to be much below the official estimate issued in August, and that of the Canadian northwest territories has also proved disappointing.

Who can fail to take advantage of this offer. Send 10 cents to us for a generous trial size or ask your druggist. Ask for Ely's Cream Balm, the most positive catarrh cure. Full size 50 cents.

ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City. I suffered from catarrh of the worst kind ever since a boy, and I never hoped for cure, but Ely's Cream Balm seems to do even that. Many acquaintances have used it with excellent results.—Oscar Ostrum, 45 Warren Ave., Chicago, Ill.

#### Ziegler Knocked Out

San Francisco, Cal., November 10.—George Green, of San Francisco, knocked out Owen Ziegler, of Philadelphia, in the first round tonight. It was the famous "solar plexus" blow with which Fitzsimmons knocked out Jim Corbett which did the work. After several exchanges in which honors were even, Green forced Ziegler to a corner and swung viciously with his left for the stomach. This blow landed clean and strong. For a moment Ziegler swayed forward and then staggered to the corner and went down gradually to his knees and then on his face. He was deathly pale and groaned as if in agony. Referee Joe Chynoyak began counting and had reached five when Ziegler made a desperate effort to come to his feet. The effort was too much for him, however, and he grasped the ropes and pulling himself to his knees, he collapsed and fell on his face and was counted out. He was carried to a corner where his seconds worked on him for five minutes before he was able to stand up.

Before re-assembling the members of the committee said that President McKinley had stated his intention of recommending in his next message to congress the advisability of separating the issue department of the treasury from the regular government expenses accounts. In other words, it will be proposed to hold the gold reserve as a redemption fund for greenbacks—to make the gold and greenbacks interchangeable. It was said that President McKinley had spoken freely on Monday with a prominent official of the National Sound Money League on this question.

When the committee resumed its session Louis R. Ehrlich, of Colorado Springs, as chairman of one of the subcommittees, read the following address: "The executive committee of the National Sound Money League, in behalf of its members throughout the United States, issues the following address: 'International bimetalism, as a world possibility, is dead. Let us recognize this. The international bimetallic commission appointed under the St. Louis pledge of the republican party, have made strenuous efforts on behalf of this policy. Those efforts have proved futile. The commercial necessities of the world have demonstrated that a dual standard is commercially unacceptable and in the present stage of civilization, impossible. The hour has come, it seems to us, when a national recognition of this fact is necessary.'

"The situation demands a definite, clear, unequivocal declaration that international bimetalism is a dream of the past. The United States must proclaim their acceptance of the world fact, and plant themselves finally on the single gold standard. The proclamation of this monetary position will quicken our commerce, increase foreign investment and make permanent the prosperous conditions which have begun to manifest themselves in our country."

"We invite the friends of sound money and all who would contribute to the well-being and safety of our commercial life to join in bringing about the unmistakable declaration that now and henceforth the monetary system of the United States shall rest on the single gold standard."

The next meeting of the league will be held in Washington during January, 1898.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.

—Detroit News.